

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

1. (Withdrawn) A snap ring, comprising:
a ring with an interior contour that extends about an opening and has a first interior edge bordering a first face of the snap ring and a second interior edge bordering a second face of the snap ring, the first interior edge having a cross-sectional profile that includes die roll, and the second interior edge having a cross-sectional profile that is blunted.
2. (Withdrawn – currently amended) The snap ring of claim 1, wherein said blunted cross-sectional profile is a rounded profile ~~at least at a point within a region of the interior contour where contact with another solid object occurs during installation of the snap ring.~~
3. (Withdrawn – currently amended) The snap ring of claim 1, wherein said blunted cross-sectional profile is a beveled profile ~~at least at a point within a region of the interior contour where contact with another solid object occurs during installation of the snap ring.~~
4. (Withdrawn) The snap ring of claim 2, wherein said rounded profile is characterized by a radius of curvature that is chosen to be in the design range of 40% to 85% of the thickness of the snap ring.
5. (Withdrawn) The snap ring of claim 3, wherein said beveled profile is characterized by a bevel angle that is chosen to be in the design range of 10 to 40 degrees from the vertical axis.

6. (Withdrawn) The snap ring of claim 3, wherein said beveled profile is characterized by a bevel depth that is chosen to produce a local thickness in the design range of 60% to 85% of the thickness of the snap ring.

7. (Withdrawn) An actuator arm assembly for an information storage device, comprising:

an actuator; and

an actuator pivot bearing; and

a snap ring retaining the actuator pivot bearing relative to the actuator, the snap ring having an interior contour that extends about an opening and has a first interior edge bordering a first face of the snap ring and a second interior edge bordering a second face of the snap ring, the first interior edge having a cross-sectional profile that includes die roll, and the second interior edge having a cross-sectional profile that is blunted.

8. (Withdrawn – currently amended) The actuator arm assembly of claim 7, wherein said blunted cross-sectional profile is a rounded profile ~~at least at a point within a region of the interior contour where contact with another solid object occurs during installation of the snap ring.~~

9. (Withdrawn – currently amended) The actuator arm assembly of claim 7, wherein said blunted cross-sectional profile is a beveled profile ~~at least at a point within a region of the interior contour where contact with another solid object occurs during installation of the snap ring.~~

10. (Withdrawn) The actuator arm assembly of claim 8, wherein said rounded profile is characterized by a radius of curvature that is chosen to be in the design range of 40% to 85% of the thickness of the snap ring.

11. (Withdrawn – currently amended) The actuator arm assembly of claim 9, wherein said beveled profile is characterized by a bevel angle that is chosen to be in the design range of 10 to 40 degrees from ~~the vertical~~ an axis normal to the second face.

12. (Withdrawn) The actuator arm assembly of claim 9, wherein said beveled profile is characterized by a bevel depth that is chosen to produce a local thickness in the design range of 60% to 85% of the thickness of the snap ring.

13-20. (Canceled)

21 (New). A method to manufacture a snap ring, comprising:

stamping a snap ring interior contour that extends about an opening and has a first interior edge bordering a substantially flat first face of the snap ring and a second interior edge bordering a substantially flat second face of the snap ring, the second interior edge being opposite the first interior edge, the first interior edge having a cross-sectional profile that includes die roll caused by said stamping; and

forming a blunted cross-sectional profile on the second interior edge.

22 (New). The method of claim 21 wherein said forming results in a rounded cross-sectional profile on the second interior edge.

23. (New) The method of claim 22 wherein said rounded profile is characterized by a radius of curvature that is chosen to be in the design range of 40% to 85% of the thickness of the snap ring.

24 (New). The method of claim 21 wherein said forming results in a beveled cross-sectional profile on the second interior edge.

25 (New). The method of claim 24 wherein said beveled cross-sectional profile is characterized by a bevel depth that is chosen to produce a local thickness in the design range of 60% to 85% of the thickness of the snap ring.

26. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein said beveled profile is characterized by a bevel angle that is chosen to be in the design range of 10 to 40 degrees from an axis normal to the second face.